

JULY 12, 2011  
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP  
RECREATION COMMITTEE

The regular meeting of the Andover Township Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by Chairman Ed Burgio with the following members present: Jodi Halteman, Brian Robinson, Sabrina Burke and Bill Clark. Mike Morel, Janet Bardello and Maechele Alborano were absent. Township Committee Liaison, Mike Lensak was also present.

OPENING STATEMENT: The Chairman noted compliance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 as being met.

FLAG SALUTE:

MINUTES: Minutes from June 14, 2011 were approved with a motion by Brian Robinson, seconded by Bill Clark, all in favor.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No one was present. Closed to the public.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report on Summer Program - Copies of parental surveys were distributed at the meeting for the members' review. Discussion took place regarding the just concluded Summer Recreation Program. It was agreed that closing the upper parking lot was a tremendous idea. Jodi and Sabrina informed the members that it went well and the kids were receptive to the addition of having the fill in activities in the barn when needed to fill time. They also seemed to do well with the aspect of being in a specific group with a specific counselor in charge each morning while getting signed in and then going onto the appropriate activity.

The final number of campers were 74 which is what it was last year. We all agreed that we would get a good 25- 30 more kids if the school's Safety Town did not take place at the same time. We discussed a couple of ideas on how to work around the Safety Town schedule which included moving our dates so we don't conflict because the school is not willing to change. In the past when we ran the program for the month of July for only 1 hour per day, we would always have low numbers after the first 2 weeks due to vacation, swim practice, etc. Moving our dates to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks might mean having even lower numbers.

We thought about holding our program for a week only but all day but the afternoon are so hot. Then we thought about reducing our program to 2 hours and begin it 8:30 am to 10:30 am and then the kids could go to Safety Town afterwards. But we would definitely have trouble getting the kids to the park that early since they have difficulty getting there by 9:00 am! The discussion went round and round.

Jackie reported that she spoke with the Byram Recreation person and they do their program in conjunction with Netcong and Stanhope. They charge more for a longer day. Green Township does their summer program at the school. Obviously they don't have a problem with Safety Town conflict.

Do we open this up to non-residents in order to get more kids and then more money? In order to keep costs down, Jodi said they could come up with ideas for activities that cost little or no money. The kids loved the water games and the slide and that only requires water and balloons. Jodi said she can do music and other activities with the kids. After further discussion it was decided that in 2012 we will go with our usual 2 week program beginning on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> for Monday-Thursday and then the next week, July 2<sup>nd</sup> – July 6<sup>th</sup> with Wednesday off for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. We can offer the usual registration fee for those who register prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> and then after June 1<sup>st</sup> we open it to the general public and raise the cost to higher fee. This way, township residents will hopefully take advantage of signing up promptly so they don't have to pay a higher fee which helps with us knowing our numbers early to plan the program better. If you are late you pay the higher fee which is what we charge non-residents.

We discussed the job the counselors did as commented by parents on the surveys. On a whole everyone did a great job and acted appropriately. Having the additional 2 counselors, plus the extra counselors in training made a huge difference. Every aspect was covered more adequately – signing in, signing out, going from activity to activity, etc. All in all, it was considered a success and Jodi, Maechele and Sabrina were commended on doing a great job as the Summer Program Subcommittee. Both Jodi and Sabrina commented that it was more time consuming than they anticipated and they were busy continuously. They feel that with this one year under their belts next year should be a lot easier.

2. Update on concession stand: Ed Burgio said he had not gotten any further info from Deb Danielson since the last meeting. He knows they are working on it but nothing new is available to report.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Plans for the Annual Softball Tournament, September 10, 2011: Jackie reported that Mike Lensak reported that there are already teams who have contacted him and are ready to sign up. We will look for 8 teams once again. The Recreation Committee will be in charge of the food and some entertainment. We are hoping to get the climbing wall from the local Armed Forces Recruitment location on Newton-Sparta Road. Ed Burgio is looking into that. Due to the fact that is being held on the weekend of the 10 year anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> we will most likely have some sort of commemorative time either with scouts or similar probably a salute to the flag with everyone involved even if it takes place at noon when most of the teams are present. We can work on that as we get closer to the date.

Bill Clark said he's working with some local high school band directors and he might be able to get some live music that afternoon. It's difficult being that it's summer vacation now. How many bands and how long they play is a question. It might be a problem due to the first football game of the season could be that same day. We don't have to have music but it is a nice touch. Ed said he also spoke with Schwan's and we will arrange to get an ice cream truck that day. We'll sell hamburgers and hot dogs and drinks. We can also look into a bounce house and could arrange some other type of fun things for the kids. Possibly Raymond will be available to do some Music with the kids. We'll fine tune this at our next meeting.

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2. Any discussion brought to the floor by members. Jodi asked to speak to the Committee about offering a Visual and Performing Arts Program for the township children. We don't have anything like that in our town and it would give the kids something to do besides scouts and sports. It would be like a musical theatre workshop with the kids and if the Recreation Committee would sponsor it the town's insurance would cover it. It could possibly run for 12 weeks during the fall into early holiday season and then the kids could perform at our annual holiday party. The appropriate charge would be around \$100.00.

Then we could continue the program into the winter and have another performance in early spring. Maybe it would work to move the Senior Luncheon from the fall to the spring so that the kids could entertain the Seniors on that day also. We could hold a recital type of performance and charge an entrance fee. That could help cover expenses for costumes, etc. We could use the barn and Jodi knows she could depend upon Raymond Ayers and her Mom is also retiring this year and would also lend a hand. The practices could take place in the Hillside House during weeknights when it is not being used. Everyone agreed this would be a great addition to what we offer. We will discuss this further and get this program going as soon as possible.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> – Lundgren – Bridal Shower – Fee - \$400.00
2. Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> – Dennison (member LES) – Party/Picnic – Fee - \$200.00
3. Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> – Filipowski – Party – Fee - \$400.00
4. Aug. 28<sup>th</sup> – Siple (member ATFD) – Party/Picnic – Fee - \$200.00
5. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> – Cruz – Party – Fee - \$400.00
6. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Smith – Wedding – Fee - \$400.00 plus \$150.00 for prior day set up
7. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> – Partnership for Social Services – Dinner Dance – Fee - \$450.00

The next Recreation Committee meeting is August 9, 2011 at 7:30 pm at town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

At this time, there being no further business to discuss, Brian Robinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 pm. It was seconded by Jodi Halteman. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Ed Burgio, Chairman

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Jackie Huelbig, Secretary